

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
May 22, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION:** Pastor Bob Szoke, Impact Christian Church

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mrs. Barron was absent. All other members were present.

**PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:**

Mr. Hardaway made mentioned of letter received from the Tobacco Free people inviting council members to a meeting at Munster High School on Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Hardaway reminded residents Lake County Solid Waste Summer Shred Event will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> at Public Works in Hammond.

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated May 22, 2018. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2018. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**BUDGET & FINANCE:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

Mr. Minchuk reminded residents to report any lawns that are not being cared for to get officers out to have them checked out.

Mr. Hardaway addressed Mr. Spires on an update the train tracks on Madison Street. Mr. Spires confirmed he is still working on getting a response. Some discussion followed.

**COUNCIL AFFAIRS:**

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

**PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:**

Mrs. Barron had no report.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Mrs. Uzelac had no report. Mr. Hardaway reminded residents/occupants that for safety reason that all home addresses need to be visible.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

Ms. LaMarca referred to Jan Orlich for a report. Ms. Orlich mentioned the Independence Parade will be held on Wednesday July 4<sup>th</sup> starting at 12:00 p.m. Applications can be found on the Town website or you can pick one at the Park Office. Ms. Orlich said all equipment for the Hendricks Park has been ordered. Ms. Orlich said seats are still available for the Cubs game Friday June 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Orlich said vendors will be published May 30<sup>th</sup> and June 6<sup>th</sup> for the July 27<sup>th</sup> concert. Some discussion followed.

Mr. Pettit made mentioned of vandalism that has been occurring on the trail. Mr. Pettit said that this needs to be a topic for a Workshop meeting. Discussion followed.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:**

Mr. Barron had no report. Mr. Lake reported that Dyer Construction initiated the Independence Drainage Approval Project that will be done in 4-5 weeks.

**ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:**

Mrs. Uzelac thanked Mr. Lake for taking care of a loose catch basin located on 75<sup>th</sup> and Hendricks.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:**

Mr. Pettit had no report.

**UTILITY LIAISON:**

Mr. Spann had no report.

**ABANDONED PROPERTIES:**

President Hardaway had no report.

**GENERAL ORDERS:**  
**FIRST READING ORDINANCES:**

**Ord. 18-06:**

An Ordinance establishing appropriations and make expenditures of buy money or payments to confidential informants and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related thereto. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 18-07:**

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Merrillville Fire Territory Operating Fund, of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 18-08:**

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Community Crossing Grant Fund for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 18-09:**

An Ordinance establishing appropriations and creating a town deferral program in the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related thereto. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

**Ord. 18-10:**

An Ordinance establishing a business regulation concerning the requirement for all new businesses that locate within the town to install security cameras, encouraging all existing businesses within the town to undertake same, and repealing all town code sections and ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

**SECOND READING ORDINANCES:**

None

**RESOLUTIONS:**

**Res. 18-09:**

A Resolution of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, transferring monies of the 2018 budget within the Local Roads and Street Fund. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mrs. Uzelac. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Res. 18-10:**

A Resolution authorizing and approving appointment of appraisers and acquisition of certain real estate, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Pettit made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Res. 18-11:**

A Resolution allowing the town to accept a donation of real estate located at 8300 Georgia Street, Merrillville, Indiana, and all matters related thereto. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to approve the resolution and was seconded by Mr. Spann. Discussion followed. The motion carried by a 5-0 roll call vote with 1 abstention.

**BZA ACTIONS:**

**Petitioner:** Javier Paredes  
**Owner:** Wanda Bellich Revocable Trust  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Dine-In Mexican restaurant  
**Location:** 7600-7602 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-3, Highway Commercial  
**Case #:** Z12E7-0418

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Jose A. Suarez  
**Owner:** Jose G. Suarez  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** Automotive collision repair shop  
**Location:** 6665 Broadway  
**Zoning:** C-3, Highway Commercial  
**Case #:** Z13E8-0418

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Gwendolyn Watkins  
**Owner:** Amer T. Samawi  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** CPR and First Aid training school site  
**Location:** 3618 West 80th Lane  
**Zoning:** C-2, Community Commercial  
**Case #:** Z14E9-0418

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

**Petitioner:** Ashlee Oliver  
**Owner:** Muhammad Javed  
**Request:** Special exception approval  
**Purpose:** To allow CNA training school  
**Location:** 103 West 78th Place  
**Zoning:** C-3, Highway Commercial  
**Case #:** Z15E10-0418

Sheila Shine provided the Staff Report for the request. Mr. Pettit made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. There was some discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Presentation by Dr. Vernon Smith to discuss the latest 2018 State Legislation session.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer’s Office at Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, May 23, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Abandoned Blighted Properties Commission meeting, May 24, 2018 at 10:30 a.m.

Town Hall offices closed (except for Emergency Services)  
May 28, 2018 in Observance of Memorial Day.

Police Commission meeting, June 1, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

Stormwater Management Board meeting, June 5, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

Plan Commission workshop meeting, June 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Redevelopment Commission meeting, June 12, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.  
Town Council meeting, June 12, 2018, at 6:30 p.m.

Lake County Solid Waste “Summer Shred Event”, June 16, 2018  
From 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Hammond Public Works, 601 Conkey Street.  
(Residents may bring up to 4 paper grocery bags of paper per household)

**ADJOURNMENT:** Ms. LaMarca made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. Pettit.

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**Richard Hardaway, President**

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**Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer**